demand for steel annually. This assessment is not made zone-wise, state-wise or plant-wise but for the country as a whole.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Enforcement of total prohibition

2155. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States which have enforced the total prohibition upto now;

(b) name of States/Union Territories to from total prohibition council of its own and amount of incomes of the States/Union Territories lost in the year;

(c) whether Government have extended to assist the financial loss of the States/Union Territories; and

(d) if so, the amount of assistance to each State/Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) According to the available information, States of Haryana and Gujarat have enforced total prohibition.

(b) Information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) There is no Scheme with the Government of India to compensate the financial loss of the States/Union Territories on implementation of Prohibition.

(d) Does not arise.

School for talented students of SCs/STs/OBCs in Bihar

2156. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools opened and their location in the State of Bihar for the development of talent in in specific talented students belonging to SCs, STs, backward classes, minorities and terrorist affected communities;

(b) the places where building complex of these specific schools could not be constructed during the last five years;

(c) the details of assistance given by the Central Government to the State during this period, year-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) The Ministry of Welfare has not opened any such schools in Bihar.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

Crimes against SCs, STs and other weaker sections

2157. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crime against scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other weaker sections has been increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the number of cases reported to his Ministry during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(c) the steps taken to stop atrocities against SC/ST and other weaker sections; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) and (b) No Sir. This is evident from the following:—

Year	No. of atrocities and other crimes against SCs and STs by non SC and non STs.
1994	38927
1995	38494
1996	35413

In so far as, crimes against other weaker sections are concerned, data is not maintained.

(c) and (d) The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 provides for stringent penalties for various kinds of atrocities committed on SCs and STs by persons belonging to other communities. Rules notified under the Act in 1995 provide stringent framework and procedures for various measures to deal with atrocities which include provision of monetary relief and rehabilitation to the victims of atrocities.

Central financial assistance is released to the State Govts. and UT Admns. to support measures undertaken by them for effective implementation of the Act which includes the provision of adequate facilities including legal aid, the appointment of officers for initiating or supervising prosecutions, setting up of Special Courts, conducting periodic survey and identification of atrocity prone areas. During the VIIIth Five Year Plan, as against the provision of Rs. 27.70 crores, a sum of Rs. 50.17 crores was released as central assistance to the States and UTs for the effective implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the SCs and STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. The position is reviewed from time to time with the State Governments and U.T. Admns.

Schemes for welfare of tribals in Melghat forest region

2158. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the various schemes of the Ministry which are currently implemented or under implementation in the Melghat Forest region of Amravati District in Maharashtra where 4500 tribal children have died due to malnutrition and diseases during the last three years;

(b) the number and types of beneficiaries who are getting or have got the benefits of the various schemes;

(c) what more can be done in this area on war footing to prevent the deaths of tribal children; and

(d) the long term steps which will be taken for the welfare of the tribals?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) The Ministry of Welfare is not implementing any specific programme/scheme for the Melghat forest region of Amravati District in Maharashtra.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Welfare provides Special Central Assistance to the Tribal Sub Plan to the States for supplementing the State efforts for providing assistance to tribal families for family oriented income generating schemes meant to raise Scheduled Tribes above the poverty line. Loans are also provided by the National Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Finance Development Corporation through its